



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

August 10, 2020

Dr. Rick Maxey
Superintendent
Horry County Schools
P.O. Box 260005
Conway, SC 29528

Dear Dr. Maxey:

Thank you for the submission of Horry County Schools' reopening plan for the 2020-21 school year. The novel coronavirus disease has brought great uncertainty to school operations but you have met these uncertainties with a safety first approach while providing students and parents with high quality options.

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) is approving Horry County Schools' reopening plan, contingent upon the district and the SCDE reevaluating the district's in-person option every two weeks, beginning with the district's official start date. In light of the fluid nature surrounding the coronavirus, we ask that you update the agency should your operational plans change by emailing reopen@ed.sc.gov.

Districts are reminded that all students in special populations should receive services regardless of the instructional delivery method selected by the parent. Additionally, districts should consider individual student needs when creating learning plans and options for the 2020-21 school year, and should avoid prescribing specific instructional options to groups of students. Furthermore, all districts are encouraged to create a protocol for identifying students in vulnerable populations, including but not limited to migrant students, homeless students, those in foster care or group homes, military-connected students, or students who districts were unable to contact during the spring school closures. Districts should have both school and district teams in place who will maintain regular contact with students in vulnerable populations and provide them with district and community resources and support

We strongly urge you to ensure that your reopening plan, as approved by the SCDE, is correctly detailed on your district website. As you implement your reopening plan and begin the new school year, please let me know of any resources needed as you strive to return to as normal operations as health and safety allow.

«Salutation_1»
Page 2
August 10, 2020

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Molly M. Spearman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Molly M. Spearman
State Superintendent of Education